



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**Pat nt and Trademark Office**

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
087859-353	05/20/97	ALMEIDA	A 034367-1

QM61/1110  
SUGHRUE MION ZINN MACPEAK & SEAS  
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW  
WASHINGTON DC 20037-3202

EXAMINER  
LEE, K.

ART UNIT  
3753

PAPER NUMBER  
28N

DATE MAILED: 11/10/98

**Pl ase find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or  
pr ceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**08/859,353**

Applicant(s)  
**De Almeida**

Examiner  
**Kevin Lee**

Group Art Unit  
**3753**



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jul 27, 1998

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire THREE month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 4 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 3753

### DETAILED ACTION

1) Applicant's amendment filed July 27, 1998 has been thoroughly reviewed and considered by the examiner. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

2) The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification, while being enabling for a fluid flow restrictor, does not reasonably provide enablement for a "gas lift valve." The specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to use the invention commensurate in scope with these claims. A "valve" must at some point completely prevent the flow of fluid through the passage.

3) The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Art Unit: 3753

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Weeks*, noting Figure 2. The patent to *Weeks* discloses a fluid flow restrictor (74) mounted on a tubing, the restrictor (74) including a curved inlet portion, a smooth straight intermediate portion and an outwardly tapered, conical shaped outlet portion.

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Misikov et al*, noting Figure 3. The patent to *Misikov et al* discloses a fluid flow restrictor (34) mounted on a tubing, the restrictor including a section having a curved inlet portion, a smooth straight intermediate portion and an outwardly tapered, conical shaped outlet portion.

4) The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patent to *Schmidt* is cited for the additional showing of a fluid flow restrictor for an oil well.

5) Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

Art Unit: 3753

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6) Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to KEVIN LEE at telephone number (703) 308-1025. The Group 3750 fax number is (703) 305-3588.

NOVEMBER 3, 1998

  
**Kevin Lee**  
**Primary Examiner**